So I rise this morning to bring our vision for the future of this great country to the American people. Our vision includes a balanced budget, fulfilling our promises of 1995, and it also includes paying off the Federal debt so that our families do not have to send $500 a month to Washington and our seniors can rest assured with Social Security.

NEW CLEAN AIR STANDARDS ARE MISGUIDED

(Mr. DOYLE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. DOYLE. Mr. Speaker, EPA is moving forward with new clean air standards that are, at best, misguided.

How can Administrator Browner say that we know all there is to know about particulate matter when EPA has identified it as one of its six high-priority research topics because of a high degree of uncertainty about the size and composition of the particles that may be responsible for adverse health effects.

Mr. Speaker, I have spent my whole life in Pittsburgh, and people there value clean air as much as anyone. We have a State implementation plan in place right now, and the air keeps getting cleaner. With new standards, the air will not get cleaner, as new regulatory deadlines will supersede existing ones.

With the stakeholder process, our community has come together to examine how to meet our air quality needs. I would note that, after participating in this rigorous process, the Western Pennsylvania Chapter of the American Lung Association, despite threats from the national organization, opposes the new standards.

If anyone at EPA believes that implementing these standards will not have any economic impact, I invite them to walk with me in the Mon Valley section of Pittsburgh and explain to those people where those industries have gone.

PRESIDENT CLINTON REVOKES REAGAN PRO-FAMILY ORDER

(Mr. CHABOT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. CHABOT. Mr. Speaker, sometimes we have just got to wonder what they are thinking about sometimes down at 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue. What is the President up to now?

Well, here is a quote from a recent Washington Times article:

> In a single sentence, President Clinton last month quietly revoked an executive order issued by President Reagan that required that all Federal policies be assessed as helpful or harmful to families.

Now, President Reagan's 1987 order was issued so that any new Federal policy would take into account its effects on American families. Now that sounds pretty reasonable to me. Apparently, President Clinton feels otherwise.

Mr. Speaker, President Reagan's executive order was issued to protect American families from intrusive and overreaching government bureaucrats. By revoking that commonsense order, President Clinton clearly showed us all where his loyalties lie.

The score: Big Government 1, American families 0.

SAY NO TO MFN FOR CHINA

(Mr. SANDERS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. SANDERS. Mr. Speaker, I am delighted that the House passed an amendment that I offered yesterday demanding that Ngawang Choephel, a young Tibetan who studied music at Middlebury College in Vermont, be released immediately from a Chinese jail where he is being held on trumped up charges.

Unfortunately, however, Ngawang Choephel is not alone as a political prisoner in China. In fact, there are large numbers of them. According to the U.S. State Department's own human rights report released earlier this year:

> All public dissent against the party and government was effectively silenced by intimidation, exile, and the imposition of prison terms. No dissidents were known to be active at year's end.

Mr. Speaker, Congress should not be supporting most-favored-nation status with China when that country has absolutely no respect for civil liberties. Congress should not be supporting most-favored-nation status with China when we have a $39 billion trade deficit with them and when corporate America is throwing American workers out on the street as they move factories to China and hire workers there for 20 or 30 cents an hour.

Let us say yes to the freedom of Ngawang Choephel and no to MFN with China.

FLOOD RELIEF

(Mr. GUTKNECHT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GUTKNECHT. Mr. Speaker, I rise out of frustration today about what is happening with the flood relief money for northwestern Minnesota and the Dakotas. But I am mostly frustrated with some of the rhetoric, and I am very disappointed with the some of my colleagues for trying to turn this into a partisan political issue.

Some people say, ''Well, this bill is not perfect.'' Absolutely it is not perfect. There is money in there for the troops in Bosnia. I do not support that. There are a lot of other things in this bill that I do not support. But if I wait for the bill that is perfect, that has only in the bill what I absolutely agree with, we are never going to get a bill.

I think the President is being absolutely unreasonable on this because there is money, as I say, in there for Bosnia, there is money in there for parking ramps, there is a lot more money in there, and incidentally, there is money in there that the President did not request. It is money for relocation, and that is very important money for the folks up in the Red River Valley. So if we wait for all the lights to turn green, we are never going to leave the house.

Now why is the President holding up this flood relief money? Because he does not like the anti-Government shutdown provision in it. Is there any Member in this body that will stand on this floor and say they want to make certain that we have the chance to close down the Government come October 1? If they believe that, they ought to come to the floor and say that.

IN SUPPORT OF A CLEAN DISASTER RELIEF APPROPRIATION

(Ms. VELÁZQUEZ asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Mr. Speaker, the President asked the Republicans for a clean disaster relief bill 84 days ago, 84 days. Instead, they sent the President a bill that tells the government how to conduct the census. I ask my colleagues across the aisle, what does the census have to do with the disaster relief?

The Democrats want to vote on a clean bill, but the Republicans will not let us. The Democrats want to help the people of the Midwest to rebuild their lives, but the Republicans will not let us. Mr. Speaker, the Republicans are playing politics with people's lives. They know that, if they pass a clean spending bill to help the flood victims, the President will sign it. But they will not do it.

Mr. Speaker, this is wrong. How many times must we say it? People are suffering and we have got to help them. Give us a clean disaster relief bill.

□ 1030

KEEP GOVERNMENT OPEN AND OPERATING

(Mr. SMITH of Michigan asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. SMITH of Michigan. Let me give Members my ideas why the President does not like the provision in the disaster relief bill that would continue Government operations at 100 percent of the previous year's level if for some reason an appropriation was not passed into law. It is because if the President passes that provision, he feels he cannot force Congress to put in those increases in appropriation bills that he would like to have. He found out in the last 2 years that he can win in deciding how much to spend on social programs